

41. In the Mándvi Range of the Surat Division it has transpired, during the year of this report, that owing to the absence of accurate maps at the time of the original demarcation, errors have been made in the emplacement of the cairns. The mistakes already discovered at the time of boundary-line clearances being so numerous that it is under contemplation to move Government to appoint a special officer for revising the old demarcation sanctioned in Government Resolution No. 6445, dated 31st August 1889.

42. In addition to the demarcation performed by the Forest Settlement Officers at the time of enquiring into claims, &c., and settling the forests, which demarcation is necessarily of a somewhat rough and partial character, the work of erecting special forest boundary marks and clearing boundary lines according to the standing orders on the subject was undertaken in all divisions. The amount of work done, together with its cost, is exhibited in the following statement:—

No.	Division.	Length of boundary lines cleared.	NUMBER OF CAIRNS ERECTED.		Stones.	Amount spent.		
			Large.	Small.		Rs.	a.	p.
1	East Thána ... ..	...	289	613	333	346	3	0
2	West Thána ... ..	...	1,134	...	...	525	10	0
3	Surat	67½	1,412	...	...	4,249	5	4
4	Panch Maháls	113½	66	1,085	...	406	2	0
Total ...		181	2,901	1,698	333	5,527	4	4

(iv). SURVEYS.

43. The work completed by a portion of No. 17 Survey Party of the Government of India working under Colonel Hutchinson in the Thána District during the year will be gathered from the following summary:—

	Square Miles.
Area triangulated	165
Area traversed	10
Area of detailed survey	60

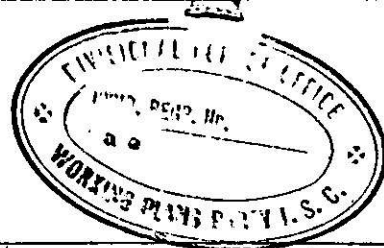
44. The season's triangulation and traverse work was confined to the Váda Taluka and the detail survey to Bassein, Bhiwndi and Sálsette. All these operations were entrusted to the care of Mr. C. F. Norman; and, considering that they were carried out in three months from March to May in a hilly country covered with mixed teak and evergreen forests, the outturn of field work shown above is very satisfactory.

45. The progress made in the completion of the maps during the recess season is exhibited in the following table:—

Forest Division.	Táluka.	Scale.	Number of field sections.	Final Maps.
East Thána	Bhiwndi ...	8"	1	1
West Thána	Bassein ..	8"	14	10
West Thána	Sálsette ...	8"	13	7

46. The nature, extent and cost of survey operations during the two seasons ending 30th September 1892, and 1893 respectively, are given below for sake of comparison:—

1891-92.



District.	Taluka.	TRIANGULATION.			TRAVERSE.			TOPOGRAPHICAL 8".			Total.
		Area.	Cost.	Cost Rate.	Area.	Cost.	Cost Rate.	Area.	Cost.	Cost Rate.	
North Thána	Váda ..	..	..	..	A. (a) 13	Rs. a. p. 483 4 3	Rs. a. p. 37 2 9	A. g. (b) 52 27	Rs. a. p. 8,445 1 10	Rs. a. p. 161 9 1	Rs. a. p. 8,923 6 1
	Bassein ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
South Thána	Bhiwandi ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	31 2	5,011 11 9	..	5,011 11 9
Total ..		..	..	..	13	483 4 3	37 2 9	83 29	13,456 13 7	..	13,940 1 10
Cost per square mile ..		..	..	..	..	37 2 9	..	..	161 9 1	..	..

(a) 57 linear miles in Váda in advance.
(b) Bassein.

1892-93.

District.	Taluka.	TRIANGULATION.			TRAVERSE.			TOPOGRAPHICAL 8".			Total.
		Area.	Cost.	Cost Rate.	Area.	Cost.	Cost Rate.	Area.	Cost.	Cost Rate.	
North Thána	Váda ..	A 165	Rs. a. p. 2,559 7 8	Rs. a. p. 15 8 0	A 10	Rs. a. p. 154 15 8	Rs. a. p. 15 8 0	A. g. ..	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p. 2,714 7 0
	Bassein ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45 0	7,060 0 5	156 14 2	7,060 0 5
South Thána	Sálsette ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11 20	..	..	..
	Bhiwandi ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 80	2,339 7 6	155 14 11	2,339 7 6
Total ..		165	2,559 7 8	15 8 0	10	164 15 8	15 8 0	60 0	9,399 7 11	166 6 6	12,113 15 3
Cost per square mile ..		..	15 8 0	..	..	15 8 0	..	..	156 8 6	..	..

47. The mileage rates vary very little in the different localities in which the Survey Party was at work, as the features of the country are identical and the cost of the different operations appears to be slightly in favour of the year under report.

CHAPTER II.

MANAGEMENT OF STATE FORESTS.

I.—REGULATION AND MANAGEMENT.

(a). WORKING PLANS AND THEIR CONTROL.

48. The Working Plans Division was transferred from the old to the new Northern Circle on the formation of the latter, and was in charge of Mr. T. B. Fry, Deputy Conservator of Forests, throughout the year. No change was made in the system originally adopted, and the operations of the Working Plans Officer were confined to Thána District.

—49. The system in force continues to meet with the favour of officials concerned in the welfare of the forests and of the agricultural interests in the district. There can be no doubt that it best meets the wants of the agricultural classes whilst providing for the maintenance of the forests, and if not altogether a scientific method of treatment it at least paves the way for a better system which may be introduced in the future.

50. In accordance with the orders issued in Government Resolution No. 7107, dated 6th September 1892, every effort was made to exploit all the coupes of the year. The majority of them were eagerly bought up by contractors; but of the number which did not find purchasers some were felled departmentally, while others were left standing.

51. The working plan of the forests comprised in the Bassein Range was reduced to paper, but being subjected to criticisms it was under consideration at the close of the year.

52. The following is the progress statement of work performed by the Working Plans Officer and his establishment during 1892-93 :—